

## Message Text

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14

ACTION SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-11 EUR-25 EA-11 ADP-00 COA-02 L-03

IO-13 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 COME-00 CEQ-02

INT-08 SMI-01 DODE-00 PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-12 EPA-04

RSR-01 /125 W

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R 081710 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 893

INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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COPENHAGEN FOR REGIONAL FISHERIES ATTACHE

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: EFIS, IWC, FR

SUBJECT: 25 TH SESSION INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION

REF: STATE 101727

1. WE PRESENTED AIDE- MEMOIRES BASED ON PARAS 1-7 OF REFTTEL TO  
PIOT ( DEP. DIR. UNIONS INTERNATIONALES, MFA) AND TO THIBAUDAU  
( DEP . DIR. PECHEs MARITIMES).

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2. THIBAUDAU, NOTING THAT FRENCH NO LONGER ENGAGED IN WHALING, STATED THAT AS WAS THE CASE AT LAST YEAR' S IWC MEETING AND DURING THE STOCKHOLM CONFERENCE ON THE ENVIRONMENT, GOF WOULD SUPPORT USG EFFORTS TO GET THE IWC TO ADOPT A 10- YEAR MORATORIUM ON WHALING.

3. INTERESTINGLY, PIOT' S REACTION WAS SOMEWHAT LESS CLEARLY IN FAVOR OF U. S. POSITION CONTAINED IN AIDE- MEMOIRE. ( COMMENT: THIS PERHAPS EXPLAINABLE BY FACT THAT PIOT WAS NOT FAMILIAR WITH BACKGROUND ON THIS ISSUE, A POINT WHICH HE MADE SEVERAL TIMES DURING OUR CONVERSATION). PIOT SAID GOF GENERALLY SUPPORTED CONCEPT OF MORATORIUM, BUT FAVORED MAINTENANCE OF THE QUOTA SYSTEM, PERHAPS WITH ZERO QUOTAS FOR THREATENED SPECIES. HE NOTED THAT THERE SEEMED TO BE DISAGREEMENT OVER WHETHER MORATORIUM WOULD BE APPROPRIATE. READING FROM REPORT ON LAST YEAR' S IWC MEETING PREPARED BY FRENCH SCIENTIFIC EXPERT ROUX, HE SAID MORATORIUM WOULD BE " TOO LATE" AND WOULD ALSO DEPRIVE RESEARCHERS OF SOLE SOURCE OF DATA ON WHALES, WHICH COMES FROM WHALERS.

4. WE RESPONDED THAT WE FOUND IT DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND HOW A MORATORIUM COULD EVER BE LATE AND REFERRED TO PARA 7 OF OUR NOTE WHICH CALLED FOR INCREASED SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH TO OBTAIN MORE COMPLETE DATA ON WHALE STOCKS AND THEIR RELATIONSHIP TO THEIR ECOSYSTEM. PIOT WAS UNABLE TO EXPLAIN HIS COMMENT ON THE " LATE" MORATORIUM.

5. PIOT SAID GOF IS HESITANT TO SEE MAJOR WHALING POWERS, JAPAN AND USSR, PRESENTED WITH TOO RIGID A POSITION WHICH MIGHT CAUSE THEM TO WITHDRAW FROM IWC. HE OPINED THAT ALTHOUGH USG HAS THREATENED TO DO SAME THING IN ICNAF IF CURRENT MEETING IN COPENHAGEN DOES NOT RESULT IN MORE EFFECTIVE CONTROLS OVER U. S. COASTAL FISHERIES, WE WOULD NOT FAVOR SUCH ACTION IN THIS CASE BECAUSE OF THE INEVITABLE IMPACT ON THE LOS CONFERENCE AS WELL AS THE THREAT TO OUR EFFORTS TO PRESERVE WHALES. WE REPLIED THAT SITUATION WAS DIFFERENT IN TWO CASES, SINCE OUR OBJECTIVE IN ICNAF ( AS IN IWC) IS PRESERVATION OF FISHERIES. WE ALSO PUT FORWARD OUR FALLBACK POSITION AS INDICATION OUR WILLINGNESS WORK OUT SOLUTION ACCEPTABLE TO ALL PARTIES.

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YM PIOT SAID THAT HE WOULD BE HOLDING MEETING IN MID- JUNE ( WHICH WOULD INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES OF FISHERIES ADMINISTRATION AND ENVIRONMENT MINISTRY) TO DECIDE ON GOF POSITION FOR IWC MEETING. SINCE POSITIONS LIKELY TO BE TAKEN BY JAPAN AND SOVIET UNION ARE CRUCIAL, HE WONDERED IF WE COULD PROVIDE GOF WITH READING ON THE VIEWS OF THESE COUNTRIES WITH REGARD TO POSSIBLE MORATORIUM PRIOR TO THIS MEETING.

7. IF DEEMED APPROPRIATE, REQUEST DEPARTMENT PROVIDE US WITH  
ESTIMATE OF POSITIONS LIKELY TO BE TAKEN BY SOVIETS AND JAPANESE  
WHICH WE CAN PASS TO PIOT BY JUNE 15. DECONTROL 12/31/74.  
IRWIN

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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**TAGS:** EFIS, FR, IWC  
**To:** BUENOS AIRES  
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